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CINCINNATI, O.

Rockefeller Blamed for Colorado Outrages

Chicago.—The responsibility for the strike of coal miners in Colorado in 1913 and 1914, and for the disorder and suffering that followed, is placed squarely on the shoulders of operators in a report by George P. West to the commission on industrial relations.

The report is endorsed by Commissioners Walsh, O'Connell, Lennon, and Garretson.

The Colorado Fuel and Iron company, controlled by John D. Rockefeller, is declared to have been the leader in formulating and carrying out strike policies. Mr. Rockefeller and his son are charged, first, with the selection of incompetent and reactionary agents to serve as executive officials in this company, and, second, with giving their heartiest indorsement and support to these officials after they had taken action and precipitated the worst of troubles.

Rockefeller, Jr., is charged with having approved measures to coerce the State government of Colorado and with having flouted the will of the President of the United States.

The report says:

"During all the seven tragic and bitter months that preceded Ludlow, Mr. Rockefeller wrote letter after letter in enthusiastic praise of men whose acts during this period had precipitated a reign of terror and bloodshed. It was only when the Ludlow massacre filled

the press of the Nation with editorial denunciation, when mourners in black silently paraded in front of his New York office, when cartoons in the conservative press pilloried him and his father before an angry public, that at last complacency gives way to concern in his letters and telegrams to Denver."

John R. Lawson is referred to as "a man of exceptionally high character and a good citizen in every sense of the word."

In referring to John Nimmo, whose death Lawson is held responsible for, the report says:

"Nimmo was one of a small army of deputy sheriffs, employed and paid by the coal companies and deputized by subservient sheriffs, who made little or no effort to investigate their records. Thus Sheriff Jefferson Farr, of Huerfano county, testified before this commission that the men to whom he gave deputies' commissions might have been, so far as he knew, red-handed murderers fresh from the scene of their crimes. That many guards deputized in this illegal fashion and paid by the Colorado Fuel & Iron company, were men of the lowest and most vicious character has been clearly established."

The report recites events leading up to Lawson's trial, and then declares:

"The prosecution and conviction of Mr. Lawson, under these circumstances,

and his sentence to life imprisonment at hard labor, marked the lowest depths of the prostitution of Colorado's government to the will of the Colorado Fuel & Iron company and its associates. It is the crowning infamy of all the infamous record in Colorado of American institutions perverted and debauched by selfish private interests. It is anarchism stripped of every pretense of even that chimerical idealism that fires the unbalanced mind of the bomb thrower. It is anarchism for profits and revenge, and it menaces the security and integrity of American institutions as they seldom have been menaced before."

BUILDING CONTRACTS

Business Building—A 2-story addition of concrete construction, to be built on present 2-story building on the northwest corner of Sixth and Race street. Owner, the Frank Estate; architect, G. W. Drach, Union Trust Bldg., Cincinnati, O. Contracts awarded as follows: Carpenter work, the M. Marcus Building Co.; sheet metal and roofing, Witt & Brown; cut stone, the Lawson Composite Stone Co.; casement windows, the Crittall Casement Co.; iron work, the L. Schreiber & Sons Co.

Hospital—A 2-story addition to be built to the Scarlet Oaks Sanitarium, in Clifton. Owner, the Bethesda Hospital; architect, G. W. Drach, Union Trust Bldg., Cincinnati, O. Contracts awarded as follows: Excavation and masonry, Sperry & Kahlies; carpenter work, Jas. Griffith & Sons Co.; glass, H. Neuer & Co.; painting, J. D. Hasemeier & Co.; plastering, George Schiear; tile and terrazzo, the Martina Mosaic Co.; concrete work, the L. Eid Construction Co.; brick work, the David Hummel Building Co.; iron work, the Southern Ohio Iron Works; sheet metal, Thos Lee; artificial stone work, the Cincinnati Cement Products Co.

Residence—A 14-room brick residence, to be built on Bedford avenue, near Madison road. Owner, Mrs. B. W. Lamson; architect, G. C. Burroughs, Union Trust Building, Cincinnati, O. Contracts awarded as follows: Carpenter work and stairs, Jas. Griffith & Sons Co.; excavation and masonry, F. Haumesser; brick work, Henry Huerman; concrete work, Chas. V. Maescher & Co.; tile and mantel work, Chas. L. Shannon & Son; steel sash, the Crittall Casement Co.; electric work, Al Becker & Son; plumbing, the Attlesley Plumbing Co.; plastering and stucco work, Werikowitz & Maier.

Factory—A 1-story brick and steel addition, 80x120 feet, to be built on Cleary avenue, Norwood, O. Owner, the Ault & Wiborg Co.; architects, Tietig & Lee, Fourth National Bank Bldg., Cincinnati, O. Architects have taken bids.

Residence—A 2-story brick residence, to be built on Ludlow and Gano avenue, Clifton. Owner, Mrs. Mary C. Walsh; architects, Samuel Hamford & Sons, Hulbert Block, Cincinnati, O. Contract for excavation and stone masonry awarded to Otto Kaiser. Balance of contracts will be awarded within a week.

Hospital Building—Mechanical equipment of addition to building at Scarlet Oaks, Clifton. Owner, the Bethesda Hospital; engineer, W. G. Franz, Union Trust Building, Cincinnati, O. Contracts awarded as follows: Plumbing, Edw. Frank; electric work, the Devere Electric Co.; heating, the Oliver Schlemmer Co.; temperature regulation, the Johnson Service Co.

DEMAND FREEDOM OF SPEECH.

Worcester, Mass.—Municipal authorities have resurrected an old ordinance and unionists are arrested on the charge of "obstructing the streets." Jacob Levine, chairman of the organizing committee of the Central Labor Union, was arrested on this charge when addressing a meeting of shop men, and the organized workers have appointed a committee to protect freedom of speech. Several speakers have been arrested within the past month, but the law so far has only applied to meetings of workers.

REFUTE LABOR SHORTAGE CRY

Philadelphia, Pa.—The North American exposes the coal operators' claim that prices must be increased this winter because of a labor shortage, due to the war. The companies are storing huge stocks of coal and the paper says:

"So far as labor goes, the only reservists who are going home to fight in any numbers are Italians, and there are very few Italians employed in the anthracite mines. Most of the workers are Slovaks, and the Slavs are finding it very difficult, indeed, to make their way back to Russia or Austria, even when they are anxious to go."

Another reason for the operators' activity is that the agreement between them and the miners will expire next April.

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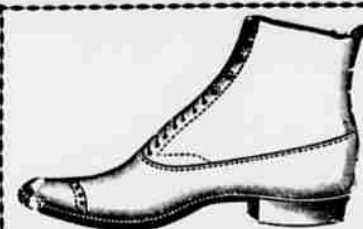
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